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GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



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***The Department of Public Health and Social Services
collaborates with the
Guam Department of Education to
Promote Tobacco-free Campuses***

**New, tobacco-free campus signs to be presented to Superintendent
and School Principals at 3:00 p.m. on December 5, 2012**

The Department of Public Health and Social Services is continuing its partnership with the Guam Department of Education to promote healthy living by providing the Guam public schools with aluminum tobacco signage to promote Tobacco-free campuses.

The GDOE schools are upholding their commitment to be tobacco-free sites by putting up the signs provided by DPHSS to enforce Public Law 30-63, "No smoking within 20 feet of public entrances and exits where smoking is prohibited".

DPHSS will present a total of 80 signs – two per school – to DOE Superintendent Jon Fernandez, his deputy directors and principals at **3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 5 in the JFK High School multimedia room, in Tamuning.**

The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program of DPHSS provided all public schools with canvas signs last year. This time the 3.5' x 4' signs are much more durable and long-lasting, since they are made of aluminum and feature Anti-Graffiti surfaces. They will be posted prominently at the front and back entrances/exits of each campus gate.

Schools are vitally important and pivotal points of contact as our community works to prevent youth tobacco initiation.

Smoking and smokeless tobacco use are usually initiated during adolescence. More than 80% of adult smokers begin smoking before 18 years of age. Each day in the United States, approximately 3,450 young people between 12 and 17 years of age smoke their first cigarette, and an estimated 850 youth become daily cigarette smokers.

(Continued on Page 2)

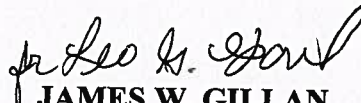
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(DPHSS/DOE Tobacco-free Signs)

Funding for printing of the 'Tobacco Free Campus' signs was made possible through a partnership with the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control, Office on Smoking and Health.

For more information about quitting tobacco use, contact the Tobacco Free Guam Quitline at 1-800-Quit-Now (1-800-784-8669) or by visiting www.quitnow.net/guam, for free and confidential counseling as well as free nicotine replacement medications such as gum or patches. Services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For more information please contact Mr. Christopher Surla, Health Educator with the Department of Public Health and Social Services, Tobacco Prevention and Control Program at 735-7334 or via email at christopher.surla@dphss.guam.gov.


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